Kinnon Stephens 2037 Salice Way Brentwood CA 94513

Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

## Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC.

When we moved to our new home, we were offered an over-priced, slow Internet service by AT&T. The builder partnered with AT&T and presented this as our only option. I had to make many phone calls and it took several days before I got a local manager for Comcast who could confirm that they did provide service here.

But two choices it not competitive. Fortunately, there was a third company at work - Sonic. Using UNE services, Sonic was able to build their infrastructure and eventually, offer us fiber optic service. Once we switched from Comcast to Sonic, the difference was incredible! Sonic provides us with an amazing service at a reasonable price. This includes fiber optic directly to our home and a phone line.

The company I work for is a small, local business. Everyone in the company depends on their Internet connection. We could not operate effectively with the slow service from AT&T. Not only would it stifle work but our families use multiple personal and entertainment services that all need lots of bandwidth.

Without Sonic, we would only have one choice for our Internet provider (Comcast). We need local companies like Sonic to keep competition alive! Without them, we would probably never see an offer for fiber optic service. Neither AT&T nor Comcast offer such a service and when I asked them about it, there was nothing on the horizon.

Our city was smart enough to require new buildings (since the late 1990s) to have the conduits built for fiber optic. But we need companies like Sonic to actually build the network. Our whole city is benefiting because Sonic is here, building a great fiber optic infrastructure. We cannot afford to lose that. We need cities to be able to develop better networks.

Please protect competition and local companies that are helping to grow a better infrastructure for all of us!

Kinnon Stephens